

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1959

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Tuesday, March 17, 1959

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Rabbi Nathaniel Steinberg of Waterville.

The members stood at attention during the playing of the National Anthem.

The journal of the previous session was read and approved.

Order out of Order

Out of order and under suspension of the rules, Mr. Wade of Auburn presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that a message be sent to the Senate, proposing a Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held forthwith in the Hall of the House, for a purpose of mutual interest.

The Order received passage.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will now request the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Wade, to the Senate to issue the invitation for a joint convention.

Mr. Wade of Auburn subsequently reported that he had discharged the duty assigned him.

The SPEAKER: At this time the Chair would like to recognize the presence in the gallery of the House of a group of thirty-six United States History and Civics Class students from Buckfield High School accompanied by Mrs. Percival and their Principal, Mr. Bean; and also a group of pupils from the Samuel D. Hanson High School of Buxton accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Gertrude Elwell. On behalf of the House the Chair extends to you ladies and gentlemen a most hearty welcome, and we hope you will enjoy and profit by your visit here today. (Applause)

Papers from the Senate

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act relating to Licensing of Home Party Plan Demonstrators" (S. P. 422) (L. D. 1218)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Business Legislation.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation in concurrence.

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act relating to Alternative Methods of Nominating Candidates" (S. P. 423) (L. D. 1219)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Election Laws.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Election Laws in concurrence.

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act Providing for County Bond Issue for Capital Improvements in Androscoggin County" (S. P. 424) (L. D. 1220)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties in concurrence.

House at Ease

Called to order by the Speaker.

At this point, the Senate entered the Hall of the House and a Joint Convention was formed.

In Convention

The President of the Senate, Honorable John H. Reed, in the Chair.

CHAIRMAN REED: The Convention will be in order. To carry out the agenda of this joint convention this morning it is my pleasure to turn the presiding officer's duties over to the Honorable Speaker of the House, the Honorable Joseph Edgar. (Applause)

SPEAKER EDGAR: The Convention will be in order. The purpose for this Convention is the carrying out of an order which was introduced in this House two years ago, and the results of which are materializing here this morning. The Chair feels that it is fitting that the sponsor of that order should now take over the Chairmanship pro tem of this Convention, and for that purpose the Chair will request the gentleman from Cumberland, Mr. Call, to please approach the rostrum and serve as Chairman pro tem. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN pro tem: Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and Members of the Joint Convention: About 1927 a

young man entered this House as our Assistant Clerk. In 1933 he was elected Clerk of this House. That makes him one of the oldest members of this House today, sixteen consecutive sessions.

Harvey has become known to thousands of people throughout the State. He has men and ladies who have left this House to go to the other unspeakable branch; he has men who became Attorney General, Governors and United States Senator. It is only fitting that on this day we gather together to honor such a man.

Now, Harvey, we are insisting on this action today, and if you object we are going to adhere, and the only thing you can do is recede and concur.

It is my humble honor and privilege to unveil a portrait of the Honorable Judge, Harvey R. Pease.

Thereupon, a picture portrait of the Honorable Harvey R. Pease, Clerk of the House, was unveiled amid prolonged applause of the Convention, the members rising.

SPEAKER EDGAR: The Chairman of the Convention has not consulted with the Clerk of the House as to whether or not at this time he would care to make a few remarks, but I am sure that we here would be very appreciative of it if you would, Mr. Pease. (Applause)

Thereupon, the Honorable Harvey R. Pease addressed the Convention as follows:

Mr. PEASE: I usually know what is going on. Do you think it is nice to pull a stunt like this on the veteran, the old decrepit Clerk of the House?

SPEAKER EDGAR: Off the record, Mr. Clerk.

Mr. PEASE: No, on the record, I want it on the record.

SPEAKER EDGAR: On the record. There is no one among my acquaintances on whom I would rather pull a trick like this, believe me.

Mr. PEASE: Whether you think it is nice or not, I think it is awful nice.

Members of the Legislature and the Presiding Officers, and Officers and Attaches of the 99th Legislature: I can't remember what the numerical designation of the first Legislature was when I came here

forty-two years ago to become clerk of a committee. I don't feel much older than I tried to act then.

I want to say to you that while down through the years my life as a public official hasn't been entirely happy at all times in certain angles, it hasn't enabled me to accumulate a wealth of worldly goods, but it has given me an opportunity to really enjoy a lifetime of service with my fellow citizens of Maine. It has given me a wealth of friendships and acquaintances that no money could buy, and if it has had some shortcomings and some objectionable features, the pleasure, the satisfaction that it has given me to serve my State and the citizens of my State for some thirty-seven years of service has more than offset all of the objectionable features.

I have led a happy life, and I think that were I to start again I would again sacrifice the opportunities of building a fortune perhaps, and pursue just exactly the same course that I have pursued. I have been very happy and needless to say, I am a very, very happy young veteran Clerk of the House today. I thank you. (Applause, Members rising)

SPEAKER EDGAR: The Chair would advise the Convention that one other portion of the Order which has not been mentioned as yet is that the portrait on my right will be hung in the retiring room of the House.

It now gives the Chair great pleasure to turn the Chairmanship of the Convention back to the Honorable John Reed, the Senate President.

CHAIRMAN REED: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Members of the Senate, I certainly want to thank the entire House of Representatives for inviting the Members of the Senate to witness this most appropriate occasion, and certainly we all concur with everything that has been said, and I was certainly happy to have had an opportunity to be here for this most justifiable recognition of the Honorable Clerk of the House. As it has been mentioned, many of us have had the privilege of working with Harvey and we hold him in extremely high regard. He is certainly a great source of information, a symbol of the continuity of the Maine

Legislature, and many other acclamations that could be said about Honorable Harvey Pease.

The purpose for which the Joint Convention was assembled having been accomplished, the Chairman declared the same dissolved.

The Senate then retired to their Chamber amid the applause of the House, the Members rising.

In the House

The House was called to order by Speaker Edgar.

From the Senate: The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that there be paid to Newell Tomah, Representative of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians; and to John Nelson, Representative of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100) each, as balance due on compensation (S. P. 429)

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, the Order was read and passed in concurrence.

Senate Reports of Committees Leave to Withdraw Covered By Other Legislation

Report of the Committee on Election Laws on Bill "An Act relating to Physical Incapacity Voting" (S. P. 34) (L. D. 32) reporting Leave to Withdraw, as it is covered by other legislation.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted.

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought Not to Pass

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs reporting "Ought not to pass" on Resolve Accepting for the State the Homestead of the late Owen C. Mann, in Farmington, Maine (S. P. 338) (L. D. 914)

Came from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on Agriculture reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Dealers

in Livestock" (S. P. 304) (L. D. 850)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to State Stipend on Breeding Classes of Male Animals" (S. P. 305) (L. D. 851)

Report of the Committee on Transportation reporting same on Bill "An Act Revising Law Relating to Dealer and Transit Motor Vehicle Registration" (S. P. 343) (L. D. 919)

Came from the Senate with the Reports read and accepted and the Bills passed to be engrossed.

In the House, the Reports were read and accepted in concurrence, the Bills read twice and tomorrow assigned.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Report of the Committee on Agriculture on Bill "An Act relating to Health Requirements of Exhibited Livestock" (S. P. 303) (L. D. 849) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 303, L. D. 849, Bill, "An Act Relating to Health Requirements of Exhibited Livestock."

Amend said Bill by inserting after the underlined word "animals" in the 13th line the following underlined words 'and poultry'.

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence and the Bill assigned for third reading tomorrow.

House at Ease

On motion of the gentlewoman from Orrington, Mrs. Baker, House Rule 25 was suspended for the remainder of today's session in order to permit smoking.

Petitions, Bills and Resolves Requiring Reference

The following 16 Bills and Resolves (transmitted by the Director

of Legislative Research pursuant to Joint Order S. P. 47) were received and, upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following Committees:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act Providing for a State Tuberculosis Annex to Community General Hospital in Fort Fairfield" (H. P. 890) (Presented by Mr. Edmunds of Fort Fairfield)

(Ordered Printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Construction and Installation of Certain Capital Improvements at State Teachers' Colleges and Fort Kent State Normal School" (H. P. 891) (Presented by Mr. Rowe of Madawaska)

(Ordered Printed)

Resolve Providing for a Study of Maine's Economy Structure (H. P. 892) (Presented by Mr. Bacon of Sidney)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Business Legislation

Bill "An Act Regulating Certain Insurance Sold in Connection with Credit Transactions" (H. P. 893) (Presented by Mr. Morse of Oakland)

(750 copies Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Education

Bill "An Act to Clarify Procedure for Reorganization of School Administrative Units" (H. P. 894) (Presented by Mr. Mathieson of Montville)

(1,000 copies Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Inland Fisheries and Game

Bill "An Act relating to Fishing and Hunting Licenses for Nonresident Students in Maine Colleges" (H. P. 895) (Presented by Mr. Beane of Augusta)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Judiciary

Bill "An Act relating to the Augusta Municipal Court" (H. P. 896) (Presented by Mr. Beane of Augusta)

(Ordered Printed)

Bill "An Act to Include Personal Property in Maine Industrial Building Authority Act" (H. P. 897) (Presented by Mr. Rowe of Madawaska)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Labor

Bill "An Act relating to Definition of Occupational Diseases" (H. P. 904) (Presented by Mr. Rollins of Belfast)

(750 copies Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act relating to Pension for Members of Police and Fire Departments of City of Waterville" (H. P. 898) (Presented by Mr. Lane of Waterville)

(Ordered Printed)

Bill "An Act Providing for Civil Service for the Old Orchard Beach Police Department" (H. P. 899) (Presented by Mr. Plante of Old Orchard Beach)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Public Utilities

Bill "An Act to Create the Berwick Water and Sewerage District" (H. P. 900) (Presented by Mr. Mathews of Berwick)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

State Government

Bill "An Act relating to Awarding Contracts for State Construction" (H. P. 905) (Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston)

(Ordered Printed)

Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Increasing Amount of Credit of State in Loans for Industrial Purposes (H. P. 901) (Presented by Mr. Rowe of Madawaska)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Taxation

Bill "An Act Providing for Severance Taxation of Certain Natural Resources" (H. P. 902) (Presented by Mr. Maxwell of Jay)

(1,000 copies Ordered Printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Additional Revenue by Severance Taxes on

Severer of Timber or Producer of Timber Products" (H. P. 903) (Presented by Mr. Rowe of Madawaska) (1,000 copies Ordered Printed) Sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: At this time the Chair would recognize the presence in the gallery of the House of a group of Freshmen and Sophomore Social Studies students from St. George High School in Tenants Harbor, accompanied by Mr. Gerald Less. On behalf of the House the Chair extends to you ladies and gentlemen a most cordial welcome, and we hope you will enjoy and profit by your visit here today. (Applause)

Orders

On motion of Mr. Wade of Auburn, it was

ORDERED, that the House request of WCSH-TV and the Maine TV Industry a print of the film of this morning's proceedings for presentation to the Honorable Harvey R. Pease.

On motion of Mrs. Smith of Fal-mouth, it was

ORDERED, that Mr. Letourneau of Sanford be excused from attendance for two weeks because of business.

House at Ease

House Reports of Committees Ought Not to Pass

Mr. Sanborn from the Committee on State Government reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Custody of Maine State Retirement System Securities" (H. P. 220) (L. D. 311)

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Ought to Pass Printed Bills

Mr. Edwards from the Committee on Business Legislation reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act to Incorporate City Finance, Inc." (H. P. 633) (L. D. 925)

Mr. Morse from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Incorporate Sagadahoc Finance Corporation" (H. P. 632) (L. D. 924)

Mr. Shepard from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act Prohibiting Signature or Countersig-

nature by Rubber Stamp or Other Facsimile" (H. P. 630) (L. D. 922)

Mr. Heald from the Committee on Natural Resources reported same on Resolve Authorizing Forest Commissioner to Convey a Right-of-Way across the Public Lot in Township D, Range 2, WELS, Aroostook County, to United States of America (H. P. 214) (L. D. 305)

Mr. Perry from the Committee on Towns and Counties reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Fees of Registers of Deeds for Mechanical Methods of Recording" (H. P. 50) (L. D. 70)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills read twice, Resolve read once and tomorrow assigned.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment Recommitted

Mr. Desmarais from the Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act relating to Pre-arranged Payments for Funerals or Burial Plans" (H. P. 631) (L. D. 923) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Livermore Falls, Mr. Kinch.

Mr. KINCH: Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that this item be recommitted to the Committee on Business Legislation. I would like to explain why.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. KINCH: This bill was heard last Thursday afternoon, and I think that I let the storm get the better of my judgment, and rather than debate the bill here on the floor of the House, I think it would be better if we recommit this bill, I think we can iron out the difficulties in the executive meeting of the Committee rather than here on the floor of the House.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is the motion of the gentleman from Livermore Falls, Mr. Kinch, that with respect to Bill "An Act relating to Pre-arranged Payments for Funerals or Burial Plans", the Bill and the Report be recommitted to the Committee. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, the Bill and Report were recommitted and sent up for concurrence.

**Ought to Pass with
Committee Amendment**

Mr. Hughes from the Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act relating to Rates under Assigned Risk Plan" (H. P. 629) (L. D. 921) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 629, L. D. 921, Bill, "An Act Relating to Rates Under Assigned Risk Plan."

Amend Title of said Bill by inserting immediately after the word "Under" the underlined word 'Auto-mobile'.

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted and the Bill assigned for third reading tomorrow.

Mr. Dennett from the Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act relating to Terms of Office and Compensation of the Aeronautics Commission" (H. P. 368) (L. D. 527) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 368, L. D. 527, Bill, "An Act Relating to Terms of Office and Compensation of the Aeronautics Commission".

Amend said Bill in the third line from the end by striking out the stricken out figure "\$20" and the underlined figure "\$50" and inserting in place thereof the figure "\$20".

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted and the Bill assigned for third reading tomorrow.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act relating to Recording of Eminent Domain Proceedings" (S. P. 134) (L. D. 329)

Bill "An Act relating to Inspection of Hotel Registers by Police Officers" (S. P. 212) (L. D. 551)

Bill "An Act relating to Time Attachment of Property Continues after Judgment" (S. P. 214) (L. D. 553)

Bill "An Act relating to the Procedure of the City Council of South Portland" (H. P. 421) (L. D. 605)

Bill "An Act Providing for the Construction of an Addition to Connor Elementary School in the Unorganized Territory" (H. P. 460) (L. D. 678)

Bill "An Act relating to Applications for Voter Registration" (H. P. 543) (L. D. 778)

Bill "An Act Conveying Songo Lock Property to State of Maine" (H. P. 612) (L. D. 872)

Bill "An Act relating to Time of Filing Nomination Papers and Date of State Conventions" (H. P. 885) (L. D. 1238)

Bill "An Act Providing for Evening Sessions of Boards of Registration" (H. P. 886) (L. D. 1239)

Bill "An Act relating to Optional Methods of Nominating Town Officials" (H. P. 887) (L. D. 1240)

Bill "An Act relating to Taking Land for Public Access Sites to Merrymeeting Bay" (H. P. 888) (L. D. 1241)

Bill "An Act relating to Report by Licensed Small Loan Agencies" (H. P. 889) (L. D. 1242)

Resolve Appropriation for the Purchase of Informational Materials for Use in the Education of Retarded Children (H. P. 132) (L. D. 190)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time, Resolve read the second time, all passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Amended Bills

Bill "An Act Creating the Portland Coliseum Recreation Center" (S. P. 117) (L. D. 267)

Bill "An Act Regulating Live Bait for Fishing" (H. P. 109) (L. D. 164)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Narrows Pond, Kennebec County (H. P. 195) (L. D. 287)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Little Concord Pond, in the Town of Woodstock, Oxford County (H. P. 554) (L. D. 789)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time, Resolves read the second time, all passed to be engrossed as amended by Commit-

tee Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

Bill "An Act relating to Audience or Reader Participation in Radio, Television or Newspaper Amusements or Games" (S. P. 115) (L. D. 265)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, read the third time, passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act relating to Digging Out Foxes (S. P. 161) (L. D. 383)

An Act to Ratify and Confirm the Incorporation of Woodfords Corner Congregational Parish Society (S. P. 308) (L. D. 854)

An Act relating to Location of Maine Maritime Academy (H. P. 28) (L. D. 48)

An Act relating to Superintending School Committee of Town of Fal-mouth (H. P. 306) (L. D. 453)

An Act to Clarify the Sales and Use Tax Law (H. P. 320) (L. D. 467)

An Act relating to Registration of Property Subject to Sales or Use Tax (H. P. 322) (L. D. 469)

An Act Permitting Town of Fort Kent to Raise Money for Boarding Home for Aged (H. P. 358) (L. D. 517)

An Act relating to Speed of Motor Vehicles on the Interstate System (H. P. 376) (L. D. 534)

An Act relating to Speed of Motor Vehicles on the Maine Turnpike (H. P. 377) (L. D. 535)

An Act relating to Speed of Motor Vehicles on Highways under Construction (H. P. 415) (L. D. 599)

An Act relating to Powers of the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (H. P. 419) (L. D. 603)

An Act Increasing Compensation for Boards of Registration in Cities with over 39,000 Inhabitants (H. P. 502) (L. D. 715)

Finally Passed

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Pitcher Pond, Waldo County (H. P. 154) (L. D. 231)

Resolve Regulating Ice Fishing in Kingdom Bog, Waldo County (H. P. 155) (L. D. 232)

Resolve Regulating Ice Fishing in Echo Pond, Kennebec County (H. P. 156) (L. D. 233)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Trout Pond, Piscataquis County (H. P. 198) (L. D. 290)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in North Pond, Town of Sumner, Oxford County (H. P. 241) (L. D. 352)

Resolve Opening Sebasticook River, Somerset, Waldo and Kennebec Counties to Ice Fishing (H. P. 347) (L. D. 506)

Resolve Providing Relief for The American Legion Foundation, Holding and Endowment Corporation of the George Edwin Kirk Post, No. 25 (H. P. 452) (L. D. 658)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, Bills passed to be enacted, Resolves finally passed, all signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under Orders of the Day the Chair lays before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter at the top of page 7 in the House calendar, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act Increasing Salary of Members of the Legislature," House Paper 15, Legislative Document 24, tabled on March 10 by the gentleman from Bridgton, Mr. Haughn, pending acceptance of the Committee Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The annual sessions bill, which I presented, is yet to be heard before Committee. It might well run into this measure also. It has not been my habit to place too many measures in the past on the table. I would like the privilege, however, to make an explanation, that when the bill would come out of Committee, the annual sessions bill, both these measures could be debated at the same time, and it would be my intention to do so and not to table my bill regardless of the report. We would give it a ride right then and there. For that reason I would like the privilege of tabling this measure until the report on the other measure comes before this body.

The SPEAKER: With respect to item number one, "Ought not to pass" Committee Report on Bill "An Act Increasing Salary of Members of the Legislature," House Paper 15, Legislative Document 24, the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert, now moves that this item be retabled unassigned pending further consideration. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed and the Report and Bill were so retabled.

The SPEAKER: The Chair now lays before the House item number two under tabled and today assigned matters. Resolve Authorizing Correction of 1954 Gubernatorial Election Record of Town of Strong, House Paper 144, Legislative Document 200, tabled on March 10 by the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Mayo, pending final passage; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. MAYO: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: My reasons why L. D. 200, Resolve Authorizing Correction of the 1954 Gubernatorial Election Record of Town of Strong should not be enacted are as follows:

This bill seeks to change the results of the gubernatorial election in 1954 in the Town of Strong. It sets forth that the town records do not agree with the official return of votes sent to the Secretary of State at that time. The change is a minor one. The official vote for Governor in the year 1954 was 248,971. This resolve would change that vote to 248,968. The net result is a change of 3 votes.

I have no objection to changing the records in this State, but I do seriously question the wisdom of the Legislature now tampering with a vote which has been announced to the world as official.

The Book of the States published by the Council of State Governments, which is more or less of a bible so far as statistics are concerned, not only for the State of Maine but for all the states, lists the total vote for Governor as 248,971. A great many statistical agencies have received this figure. The various almanacs and analysts, as well as the Maine Register, have the figure 248,971.

To change that total now would cause great confusion for years to come. Once the Legislature has accepted the gubernatorial vote, unless there is a compelling reason to do so, it should not be changed. It seems to me that a 3-vote error made by the officials of the Town of Strong should not be corrected at this time when to do so would create a difference in the total vote as shown by the records of the Secretary of State and the various publications mentioned above.

To pass this bill would, in my opinion, create a dangerous precedent, namely for the Legislature, after the ballots and other pertinent records have been destroyed, to take the word of certain citizens or even officials with reference to what the vote should have been.

I feel that the people who wish to have this vote corrected have waited far too long to make their desires known. The reasons for leaving the figures as they are would seem far more compelling than any reason the residents of Strong might have for making a correction.

I now move the indefinite postponement of this Resolve.

The SPEAKER: The question now before the House is the motion of the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Mayo, that with respect to Resolve Authorizing Correction of 1954 Gubernatorial Election Record of Town of Strong, House Paper 144, Legislative Document 200, the Resolve be indefinitely postponed. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, the Resolve was indefinitely postponed and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair now lays before the House item number three under tabled and today assigned matters, Bill "An Act relating to Augmenting of Stored Water," Senate Paper 391, Legislative Document 1135, tabled on March 11 by the gentleman from Woodstock, Mr. Whitman, pending reference in concurrence. In the Senate this Bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Woodstock, Mr. Whitman.

Mr. WHITMAN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: After collaborating with the sponsor of this

Bill and conferring with the Chairmen of the various committees concerned, I now move that this Bill be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources in non-concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Woodstock, Mr. Whitman, with respect to Bill "An Act relating to Augmenting of Stored Water," Senate Paper 391, Legislative Document 1135, moves that this Bill be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources in non-concurrence. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, the Bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair now lays before the House item number four under tabled and today assigned matters, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Appropriations and Fi-

nancial Affairs on Resolve Establishing Control Program for Abatement of Mosquitoes in Cranberry Isles, House Paper 81, Legislative Document 128, tabled on March 13 by the gentleman from Ellsworth, Mr. Brown, pending acceptance of the Committee Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mount Desert, Mr. Graves.

Thereupon, on motion of that gentleman, the "Ought not to pass" Committee Report was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The House is proceeding under Orders of the Day.

(Off Record Remarks)

On motion of Mr. Russell of Portland.

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.